

THE ⁴
DECLARATION
AND
PROCLAMATION
OF THE
ARMY of GOD,

Owned by the Lord of Hosts in many Victories.
To all the good People of God throughout *England,*
Scotland, and Ireland, &c.

Whereunto is annexed 17 necessary Proposals for the Enthroning of Gods Lawes, settling of good Judges in every City, taking off the Excise, and Assessments; and payment of the Souldiers, with the advancement of a free Trade and Manufacture, for the good of the Poor in the three Nations, without injury to any mans Propriety; with security proffered of 500000 l. if the premises be accepted of by the Parliament and Army.

L O N D O N

Printed by J. C. for the Author, 1659.

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THE
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VV *Whoever doth Righteousnesse is Righteous,*
(1 Jo. 2. 29. 3. 7. 10.) Wherefore having the
Sword of the Lord put into our Hands by His
All-Wise Providence, counselling the Godly
party in the great Parliament, & stirring up the honest People
thereto; as also the severall Appeales and Declarations of
the late King and Parliament, pressing upon us the Necessity
of the sword, even by Protestations, Covenants, and severall
engage-

engagements imposed on us and others, for the punishment of evil Doers, and for the praise of them that do well, (*Rom.* 13. 3, 4. *1 Pet.* 2. 14.) Which Work the Lord so prospered in our hands, that by us He wrought Peace throughout the three Nations, in so much that supposing our work done, we slumbered till we saw men in high places Drunk with the Cup of Fornication (*Rom.* 17. 2. 18. 3.) and our selves almost hurried amongst the Worshippers of the Beast, and his Image. (*Rev.* 14.) At last the Terrors of the Lord (*2 Cor.* 5. 10.) have awakened us, and we now behold all three Nations as in the Parable (*Mat.* 12. 44, 45.) swept and Garnish'd, and the unclean Spirit bringing with him seven other Spirits, more wicked then himself; so that the Treasure is exhausted, Merchants and Sea-men discouraged, Trade decayed, Prisons filled, *Westminster-Hall* throng'd with Lawyers and Clyents, and complaints, and Fees innumerable whilst Injustice, Poverty and Oppression increase and Triumph; And we our selves made use of but to raise and exact Taxes, though left without pay, or Honourable employment, and many poor Souldiers Families wholly Famished.

We declare and Proclaime that we have obtained now strength of the Lord, and do as One Man resolve (by His Almighty Help) on these Particulars.

- ✓ 1. Liberty of Conscience; but not of Sin.
2. Gods Lawes to be Enthroned; but not the Jewes.
3. Judges to be chosen in every Ciry; but not imposed.
4. Taxes and Excise to be taken off, and never more lay'd on.
5. Free Trade for all Victuals, Ammunition and materials imported: and for all Manufactures exported.
6. To indeavour a maintenance for Souldiers that have been for the Good Old Cause, without Taxes or Oppression of the People.
7. To indeavour all the Poor may be imployed and maintained,

ained, without injury to any mans Propriety.

8. Prison Doores to be set open, to let out Debtors to labour toward the payment of their Debts.

9. And for preventing Royallists and Malignants from sitting in Parliament to dispose of the Estates, Lives and Liberties of those whose Vassals they ought to be by Conquest, and so revenge by Councils what they lost in Warr, these qualifications were thought fit for the Election of either new supplies, or new Parliaments.

10. A Parliament or supply to be called from all Parts of the three Nations, for the better settling of this intended Good.

11. Elections not to be by a confused Rabble, nor yet returned by a more Corrupt Sheriff; but to be chosen, or at least approved by the several Congregations for places aforesaid.

12. Such Parliament Men to be maintained by the several respective places they are chosen for, and to bring with them the Attestation of the said Election, under the Hands and Seals of the respective Congregations at large, certifying also their Employment, Conversation, and time of abode amongst them.

13. That each Congregation have liberty to demand an Account of the several Representatives; And upon their not discharging the Trust; to redemand them and to chuse others.

14. That neither the Army, nor any Officer of the Army shall have to do with Judicature, after the settling of the Lawes of God throughout the Nations, so long as they continue Members of the Army.

15. Because that Mercy is better than Sacrifice; and to save Life more then to destroy it: Therefore an Act of Oblivion for all men that may be pardoned, without leaving the Guilt of Sin upon the Nation, or doing injury to any difference between man and man.

16. That

16. That there may be sufficient Provision for a godly Ministry throughout all three Nations, upon such Establishment as may satisfy each Religious Conscience without wounding the Liberty of any.

17. That there may be an honourable entertainment for above 1000 Lawyers or Judges, if so many honest may be found, with sufficient Clerks and Registers under them.

Since this was gathered, as the intent and meaning of some old Souldiers and Officers, together with the mind of some godly people of the Nation; It hath pleased God to hasten the Resurrection of that Parliament, that first modellized these Kingdoms into a Common-wealth: to whose grave consultations, as to all others that desire the good of this Reipublick, and the establishment thereof, upon solid and unalterable foundation: this lies open without interrupting either publick Councils, or Private affairs; wherein these three difficulties chiefly appear. 1. To pay the Souldier. 2. To take off Taxes. 3. To quicken Trade; For it were great Ingratitude to let the good old Souldier perish for want of Pay, who hath stood in the breach, and born the heat of the day.

It were Tyranny and Oppression still to burthen the suffering People with Assessments, Taxes, and Excise, who have spent themselves to Poverty and ruin for the Good Old Cause.

It were destructive to the Nation, and would expose us naked to the mercy of Foreigners, not to encourage Merchants and Sea-men.

All which, having been the long meditations of some able and well-meaning men, and God having answered their frequent desires, and Petitions in this behalf: so as to shew them a very probable way, not onely for the maintaining of the Good Old Officers and Soldiers, but of their Families also without Assessments, Excise, or other Taxes on the people, Together with the maintenance of the Navie, without Customes or Ammunition, Victual, on materials imported, or any Manufactures exported, or without invading any mans propriety.

They

They look upon this juncture of time as the Voice of God calling upon them, and giving them opportunity to endeavour so good a work. Nevertheless desirous to be assisted in so great an Enterprize, by as many persons of note and ability as God hath made willing and able, together with themselves to put in sufficient security for performance hereof; they are intreated to send in their names to *Livewell Chapman*, Book-Seller in Popes-head-Ally by the Exchange, who hath promised to keep them secret, till by sober and frequent meetings the matter may be digested, fit to be presented to the Parliament and cheif Officers of the Army. Where if the Propositions prove acceptable, there will be a summe of 500000 l. ready towards performance of the same.

FINIS.
